Trade agreement between Fedral Republic of Germany and India

1540. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and the Federal Republic of Germany have recently signed a new trade agreement to boost up trade between the two countries; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Export/Import Policy

1541. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while laying down the policies for export and import for the country, Government consult the State Governments;

(b) whether such consultations are held with the State Governments in respect of agricultural products;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the ban on export of long staple cotton imposed by the Centre has badly hit a large number of farmers in the country;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the Government of Karnataka has suggested that a convention should be established to consult the States regarding policy matters concerning import and export of agricultural products; and

(e) if so, what is Central Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) to (e) Government of Karnataka has suggested that for matters directly affecting the States there should be a process of consulting the State Governments. Annual Import and Export Policy is formulated by the Government of India keeping in view the overall objectives of Government policy and taking into account the various interests of those concerned. Suggestions and recommendations received from different quarters, including those from State Governments, are given due regard and consideration.

(c) As the prices of cotton are generally ruling much above the support prices announced by Government, it cannot be said that restriction on the export of cotton has badly hit a large number of farmers. The demand and supply position is kept in view while deciding the policy.

Computerised Teller System in BankS

1542. SHRI B. KRISHNA MOHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken to introduce computerised teller system in all the busy commercial bank branches;

(b) whether such a system has been introduced in any branch so far; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) (a) to (c) The Indian Banks' Association (IBA) have reported that no bank has introduced computerised teller system. Computerised teller system is a very sophisticated computerised application which primarily requires a centralised computer system of deposit accounting. Though the Bipartite Settlement of 8th September, 1983 between the IBA and the unions of bank employees permits computerisation to a limited extent, processing of customer accounts on computers is not permitted.

Number of NCC groups and units

1543. SHRI SYED AHMAD HASHMI; Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present number of NCC Groups and Units;